

IN THE SPECIFICATION

- Please amend paragraph [001] of the specification as filed as follows:

[001] This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application ~~Serial No. Number~~ 60/467,164, filed Apr. 30, 2003, entitled "Radial Menu Interface for Handheld Computing Device," which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

- Please amend paragraphs [008]-[0011] of the specification as filed as follows:

[008] FIG. 1 is a ~~symbolic~~ top plan view ~~diagram~~ of an exemplary handheld computing device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[009] FIG. 2 shows an exemplary first level radial menu presented on ~~[[the]]~~ a display screen of ~~[[the]]~~ a handheld computing device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[0010] FIG. 3 shows an exemplary second level radial menu presented on ~~[[the]]~~ a display screen of ~~[[the]]~~ a handheld computing device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[0011] FIG. 4 is a schematic representation of ~~[[a]]~~ an exemplary handheld computing device including an actuator to provide tactile feedback according to an embodiment of the present invention.

- Please amend paragraphs [0012]-[0014] of the specification as filed as follows:

[0012] FIG. 1 is a ~~symbolic top plan view diagram~~ of an exemplary handheld computing device 100 (e.g., a personal digital assistant (PDA), a gaming device, or a cell phone) in which a graphical user interface (GUI) comprising on which a radial menu (described in detail below) can be implemented. The handheld computing device 100 includes a housing 110 of suitable size and shape to be gripped by hands of a user. A processor and associated circuitry (not shown) disposed within the housing 110 ~~execute~~ executes instructions associated with a set of software applications. A display screen 120, secured to the housing 110, presents the GUI to the user and through which graphics and text are displayed ~~to the user~~. The handheld computing device 100 can also include other well known features that have been omitted from FIG. 1 for clarity such as expansion slots to receive memory cards or sticks, interfaces for attaching peripheral devices or other electronic devices, and so forth. It will be understood that although the present invention is described with respect to a handheld device, the radial menu disclosed herein can be readily implemented in any computing device that includes a GUI.

[0013] User input to the processor is effected by the manipulation of one or more user controls such as an analog input device 130, a set of digital switches 140, or a touch sensitive display screen 120. The analog input device 130, for instance, can take the form of a conventional two-axis joystick mechanically biased to a center position (i.e., a joystick offering north-south-east-west and intermediate navigation including vertically downward, perpendicular-to-surface motion). The function of analog input device 130 may alternatively be achieved using an eight-way digital switch.

[0014] The radial menu interface of the present invention is described herein with respect to an exemplary implementation that allows a user to select an application from a plurality of available applications. Generally, [[a]] the radial menu interface of the present invention consists of a set of individual radial menus logically organized in a hierarchical fashion, such that the selection of a first level menu item from a first level radial menu causes a second level radial menu to be displayed. The second level menu, in turn, includes a plurality of second level menu items associated with the selected first level menu item. Although two menu levels are described in the exemplary implementation, it will be apparent that further menu levels can be readily added. Menu items at any level in the hierarchy can be provided to cause another menu level to be displayed, to open a particular file, or to cause a particular application to execute.

- Please amend paragraph [0018] of the specification as filed as follows:

[0018] Upon selection of a first level menu item that represents a second level menu (e.g., the Info Tools menu item 206 in the present example), the second level menu is generated and displayed on the display screen 120 (FIG. 1). The second level menu comprises a plurality of second level menu items associated with the selected first level menu item, and the second level menu items replace the first level menu items in the circumferential arrangement about the central object. FIG. 3 depicts an example of a second level menu 300 displayed in response to the selection of the Info Tools menu item 206 (FIG. 2). Accordingly, the second level menu 300 includes a plurality of second level menu items 302-316 [[is]] in a circumferential arrangement. Here, too, a second central object 318 can be disposed within the circumferential arrangement of second level menu items 302-316. The second central object 318 can be the same as the first central object 218, or different as shown. In FIG. 3, the second central object 318 has an 'up one level' symbol and can be selected by the user to select the user operation of returning to the first level menu 200 (FIG. 2).